

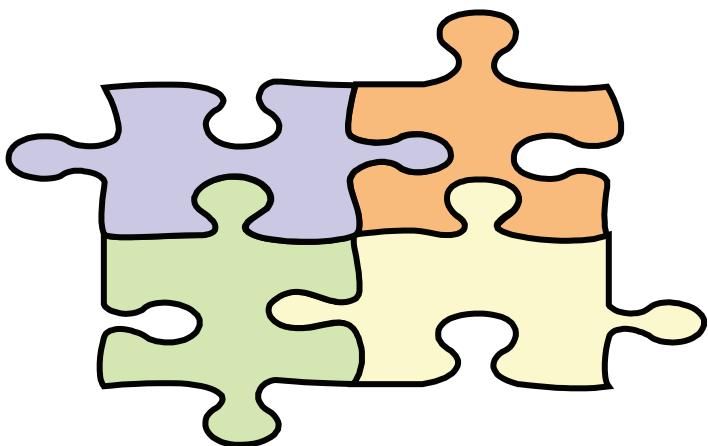
# IMAGEN OF *Boulder County*

Issue #1

January 2007

## "WHERE DID WE LEAVE OUR HUMANITY?"

Researched by Janet Heimer, Leslie Irwin, and Malaika Pettigrew



It remains a puzzle to many of us that there are those whose vision cannot go beyond the separated parts and colors to see that the individual pieces can actually make a whole if allowed to connect and evolve.

The following letter appeared in the *Longmont Times Call* on December 24, 2006 under the headline: Immigrants are human. The authors were called with a request to publish their letter in *Imagen*. The following was sent in by Janet Heimer. It is appropriate as we begin a new year.

15 December 2006

### Where did we leave our humanity?

We write to you regarding the raids in Greeley, Colorado, and other parts of the country at Swift meatpacking plants, where hundreds of people were rounded up and detained on suspicion of being undocumented immigrants and using false identification.

Where immigration is concerned, the human cost is way too great to consider raids and mass detentions an acceptable response to our broken immigration system!

Imagine the absolute terror of going to work one day, and in the midst of a mundane meatpacking task seeing armed officials enter. Imagine not having time to pack a single thing, to gather important documents, to say goodbye, to make arrangements for your children and pets and homes, to get the medicine you must take in order to be well, before you are loaded on a bus and driven to a detention facility. Imagine not understanding what will happen to you or even where you will be sent.

Where did we leave our compassion? When did we forget humanity of every living being? Our hearts break for the tragedy being rained upon the individuals and families victimized by the unjust raids and deportations. Our hearts cry even more for those who have left behind their own humanity. We so easily discard the lives of others. Wake Up. We all hurt when we ignore the suffering of others. We just don't know it yet. A very wise friend once said, "The one who has been cut never forgets the pain." However, those of us doing the cutting are the first to forget!

**In Unity there is strength, communication and progress**

We easily rationalize our prejudices as justifiable. The face of the unwelcome immigrant has become anything but human. It's too easy to buy the propaganda thrown at us daily. We see immigrants as the thieves of our safety, our way of life and even our own identities. We think their plan is to take over this country, to ruin our economy and to suck dry our social support system. We don't see ourselves as oppressors. Such is the case for those of us who sit back and watch as individual human beings become "illegal aliens" and when families are torn apart, and sent back to "where they came from". We are the first to demand equality and justice when our rights are violated. We should not tolerate anyone else's human rights being violated.

WE CANNOT IN GOOD CONSCIENCE SUPPORT POLICIES AND ACTIONS THAT SPLIT UP HARD-WORKING FAMILIES THAT LOVE THIS COUNTRY!!!

Strategies to End Oppression (A Collaborative Non-profit Effort),

Janet Heimer, Leslie Irwin, Malaika Pettigrew,  
Aya Medrud, Dorothy Rupert, Marta Moreno,  
Jorge de Santiago, Elena Aranda, Perla Delgado,  
Suzie Helburn, Rusty Denham, Betty Ball,  
Audrey Fishman Franklin, Pete Salas, Nino Gallo,  
Anne Tapp, Leo Durocher, Morgan Rogers,  
Mandy Yick, Diana Sherry, Carmen Ramirez,  
Carolyn Slauson, Denys Vigil, Tikki Heublein,  
Alice Swett, Robin Bobannan, Barbara Pingrey,  
Veronic LaCrue, Reggie Schmidt, Richard Garcia,  
Daniel Escalante, Teresa Garcia, Donna Lovato,  
Ghada Kanafani, Dorothy Bustamante, Kara Edin,  
Detre Godinez, Bridget Trujillo, Connie Wilcox,  
Crystal Winship Erazo, Pam Duran, Carly Hare.

As editor of *Imagen*, and in keeping with the spirit of this letter, I feel it is fitting that we call to mind some of the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., (1929-1968) whose life and work is celebrated this month as a national holiday:

*Right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant.* From The Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, December 10, 1964.

*We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.* From a speech on March 22, 1964.

*I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.* From "I Have a Dream," speech, August 28, 1963.

*Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.* From "letter from Birmingham Jail," April 16, 1963.

*The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.* From "Strength in Love," 1963.

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Readers of *Imagen* are encouraged to read any of these writings which will open the doors to other works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**In Unity there is strength, communication and progress**

## **Publisher's Notes from Colorado, National Image and Around the Country**

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- ◆ The Denver *Noticiero* is a roundup of vacancy information. If you would like to submit vacancy announcements for publication, fax to Becky Rios at 303.497.7283, or e-mail to [Becky.Rios@noaa.gov](mailto:Becky.Rios@noaa.gov) or mail to NOAA/OAR EEO Office, R/OMx3, 325 Broadway, Bldg 22, Boulder, CO 80305. Becky's phone number is 303.497.6439. The Denver *Noticiero* can be seen online at the OAR EEO web page at: <http://eeo.boulder.noaa.gov>. Click on Employment. Also, back issues of *Imagen* can be found by clicking Community Organizations.

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- ◆ *Imagen* has been informed that **Roger Molinar** and **Joe Davalos** have retired from their federal positions. We wish them well and encourage them to stay active in Image.
- ◆ Still active in retirement is **Ramón Montoya**. He is a member of the Boulder County Chapter of Image and continues to serve as Special Assistant to the National Image President. In this capacity, Ramón represented the National President at the National Latino Congreso held in September in Los Angeles, California. The Congreso is sponsored by several community organizations including LULAC and MALDEF. The subjects presented for discussion included Immigration; Education for Hispanics, which included children of immigrants; and other immigration issues such as voting rights for immigrants.

In October 2006, Ramón represented the National Image President at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute held in Washington, D.C. He attended a Gala to honor individuals who are advocates for educating Hispanic youth. Jimmy Smits was honored for his work in this area. Colorado Senator Salazar also attended the Gala.

Ramón attended the Bernie Valdez Awards luncheon in October 2006. When Bernie Valdez was on the Board of the Latin American Educational Foundation, Ramón received a scholarship to attend college in 1961. Ramón later served on the LAEF for 9 years and was President in 1986-87.

Ramón was asked by the Office of US Senator Ken Salazar to serve on the US Military Academies Selection Committee for the Air Force Academy, the Naval Academy and West Point.

Ramón was recently asked to serve on the State and Rural Migrant Committee. This committee reviews and investigates all matters pertaining to migrant workers throughout Colorado.

Ramón was recently elected to the Board of Directors for La Clinica Tepeyac. La Clinica, which was founded 12 years ago, is currently located near Guadalupe Church. La Clinica provides medical assistance to individuals who do not have health insurance. The fee is on a sliding scale, but no one is denied services because they lack the minimum fee.

For details on his activities contact Ramón at: [ramon\\_montoya\\_900@hotmail.com](mailto:ramon_montoya_900@hotmail.com)

# NUESTRO TALENTO

## El Olvido

Expira el sol: en la elevada cumbre  
del alto monte su explendor declina,  
y alla en las ondas su rojiza lumen  
se pierde ardiendo en ráfaga divina.

La luna se avecina;  
pálida reina, en en etéreo espacio  
su carro estampa luminosa huella,  
y en nubes de topacio  
vela su frente la amorosa estrella.

Ven sin temor, aparta el pensamiento  
del orgulloso porvenir que ansías,  
pérvida Laura, cuyo amor sendiente  
marchitó en flor las esperanzas mías.

Como las hojas frías,  
del triste otoño pálidos despojos,  
voló de esa pasión la ardiente calma,  
y aún, en tus negros ojos,  
brilla la luz que facinó mi alma.

Pero está yerto el corazón gastado,  
y más yerto lo siento cada hora.  
Rompe el dolor el cuerpo fatigado,  
cansancio atroz mi espíritu devora;  
mas, ora, oh Laura, ahora  
la memoria del bien es mi martirio.  
Olvidar, elvidar sólo deseo,  
e invoco en mi delirio  
las fabulosas ondas del Leteo.

Y siempre así, mi pensamiento errante,  
que el alma triste con recuerdos hiela,  
junto a mi lecho lóbrego, incesante,  
como un fantasma silencioso vela.  
¡Oh, vuela, oh tiempo, vuela!  
¿A qué contra las pálidas auroras  
que alumbran mi existencia atormentada?

Inútiles, las horas  
nada me quitan, ni me dejan nada.

Recuerda entre los espacios del vacío  
esta triste prisión que Dios olvida,  
cual onda vega de lejano río  
en el inmenso piélago perdida.

Las obras de la vida  
son barro vil que el ábreo destruye,  
tímidos arroyos que el abismo traga,  
vano sueño que huye,  
pálida antorcha que la brisa apaga.

La vida es el amor: dulce ambrosía,  
del alma ardiente celestial beleño,  
encanta nuestra joven fantasía  
con el que finge porvenir risueño,  
mas la gloria es un sueño,  
nombre que halaga nuestra audacia loca,  
sonado eterno en nuestro pobre oído,  
y va de boca en boca  
rodando a los abismos del olvido.

El tiempo huyó; para mi ardor naciente  
era el sendero de la vida estrecho;  
mas tu imagen de amor, lánguida, ardiente,  
el faro fue de mi bajel deschecho.

Y mi trémulo pecho  
palpitaba a tu canto entusiasmado,  
cula bajo el ala de la brisa amiga,  
en el campo abrasado,  
mécese airosa la dorada espiga.

Hay en mi seno oculta la esperanza  
de un porvenir de religión tranquilo,  
de una vida que corra sin mudanza,  
cual pobre manantial, hilo por hilo.

Quiero, en mi triste asilo,  
ver de la noche desgarrarse el velo  
bajo el pie delirante del cometa,  
o en el azul del cielo  
magnífico brillar el rey planeta.

Anhelo sólo reposar mi alma,  
el cáliz de mi amor roto en pedazos,  
do nada turbe mi piadosa calma  
de la quietud de los amantes abrazos.

Rotos todos los lazos  
y solitario en mi cansancio inmenso,  
mi único bien, mi amor será el olvido.

En los que soy no pienso,  
ni siquiera pensar en lo que he sido.

Salvador Bermúdez de Castro, Spain 1817-1883.

## ***The Goals and Objectives of Boulder County Image***

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- A. To seek a broad development and expansion of employment opportunities for the aspirants among the Latino population.
- B. To assist and encourage the government services in providing the best possible circumstances for the recruitment, training, employment and advancement of Latinos.
- C. To encourage and actively support the promotion and advancement of Latinos already employed.
- D. To counter employment issues based on social, ethnic, religious, age and gender discrimination, direct or indirect.
- E. To analyze and determine the educational and professional needs of Latinos seeking entry and advancement in employment; and, whenever possible, provide appropriate training and counseling services to meet these needs – particularly among the youth.
- F. To establish and continually upgrade a broad basis of communications with Latino employees across the nation.
- G. To respond to the reasonable requests of non-members and groups whose problems, goals, and objectives are supportable within the By Laws of Boulder County Image.
- H. To enhance the promotion of ethnic pride, culture, and camaraderie through the organized and regular social gatherings which will serve to bind members together.
- I. To provide a non-partisan platform on major issues of local and national significance so that members may be better informed and may express their views.
- J. To expand the concept and objectives of National Image, Inc., to communities throughout the United States to provide maximum impact on the benefits derived from the pursuit of these goals and objectives as stated above.

# **Key Committee Functions**

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The key functions performed by Boulder County Image officers and members of standing committees include: **Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues; Membership and Outreach; and Consultation.** The President of Boulder County Image will assign members on an ad hoc basis as the need arises. The following is a brief description of each function:

## **Advocacy on Employment and Education Issues**

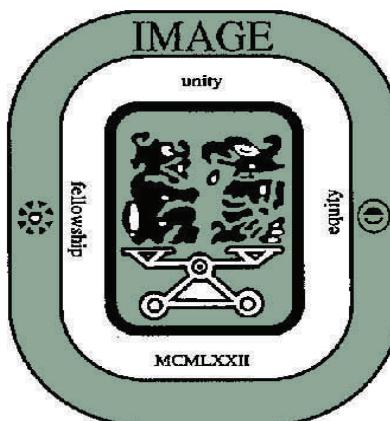
The advocacy function is performed when members take a pro-active role in seeing that a client's issue is addressed by the appropriate community, education or government organization. This function typically involves the following: Mediating an issue at the lowest level before it escalates; Negotiating issues on behalf of clients; Assisting local businesses with employee issues; Assisting students and parents with local school issues, e.g. fighting, drop out, and equal treatment policies; Educating the community on Latino issues; Researching legal information (not advice) on various employment topics; Accompanying clients (employees and applicants) and serving as their representative. Boulder County Image will monitor civil rights issues in the community and provide a community service by organizing Latinos and educating them on issues.

## **Membership and Outreach**

The membership committee is charged with an ongoing program of recruiting and retaining members. This committee coordinates a yearly membership drive for new members. The outreach function is performed by going out into the community to explain Image programs and communicating the assistance that can be provided. Typically, this function involves attending meetings and briefings, networking with agency representatives, providing orientation briefings to newcomers, attending training sessions and education workshops - both as participants and presenters.

## **Consultation**

Consultation services are typically provided to clients who are in need of explanations related to documents that need an interpretation and require follow up actions. Consultations are private.



**IMAGEN** is a publication of

Boulder County Image  
#348  
637-B South Broadway  
Boulder, CO 80305  
Phone 303.497.6439

**IMAGEN** seeks to inform Latinos on employment, education and civil rights issues.

Editor: Tony Tafoya

**MISSION**

*National Image, Inc. was established in 1972, to address Latino concerns in employment, education, and civil rights. Boulder County Image is an affiliate of National Image, Inc. and operates in Colorado within Region VIII. Its mission is to work with federal, state, county and local government organizations and community members to improve the status of Latinos in focused mission areas.*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**BOULDER COUNTY IMAGE**

**OFFICERS:**

The following were elected as interim officers at the first meeting on July 13, 2005. They will serve while the petition to affiliate with National Image, Inc. is being reviewed.

President - Becky Rios

1st Vice President - Richard Shields

2nd Vice President - Katy Stewart

Secretary - Vacant

Treasurer - Michelle Masias

**TASK FORCE CHAIRS/MEMBERS:**

The following have been appointed as chairs of the standing task forces. Members will be contacted to join one of these task forces.

Social/Cultural - Michelle Masias

Education - Richard Shields

Employment - Vacant

Civil Rights - Katy Stewart

**NATIONAL OFFICERS:**

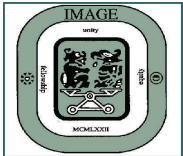
National President - John Griego

Region VIII Director - Joseph Davalos

Colorado State Director - Tony Montoya

Special Assistant Office of the Chairman - Ramón Montoya

## Membership Application Form



Boulder County Image  
#348  
637-B South Broadway  
Boulder CO 80305

### Applicant Information (please print or type)

Name	
Home Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Employer Name	
Work Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone (business)	
Telephone (Home)	
Fax	
E-Mail	

### Membership Information #1-07

Type of Membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Membership dues are \$32.00 (\$25.00 for National dues, \$2.00 for State dues and \$5.00 for Chapter dues.)

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